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Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A carrier of articles for wearing around a forearm, the carrier
2 comprising:
3 a carrier body having a top side, a center portion, and an end portion on each side
4 of the center portion, the center portion having front and back edges and an external
5 surface with a size that is greater in length from the front edge to the back edge than
6 various kinds of articles used in cosmetics, including scissors, eyeliner pencils, and
7 makeup brushes;
8 means for fastening the end portions to each other when the end portions are
9 wrapped around opposite sides of the forearm to secure the carrier to the forearm; and
10 a strap extending across at least a portion of the center portion ~~top side of the~~
11 ~~carrier body~~ and attached to the top side at a plurality of locations to form an open-ended
12 ~~such that a compartment~~ that extends along the external surface in a longitudinal direction
13 of the forearm, the compartment snugly is defined for receiving and holding an article
14 used in cosmetics between the strap and center portion and urging the article against the
15 external surface to hold the article in place, an open end of the compartment being located
16 at a distance from the front edge such that the article can project out of the compartment
17 while remaining encompassed by the external surface of the center portion.
- 1 2. (original) The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a cover portion attached to a
2 front edge of the center portion for folding over the article in the compartment.

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1 3. (canceled)

1 4. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the strap extends across the carrier body
2 approximately parallel to a front edge of the center portion.

1 5. (canceled)

1 6. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the strap is made of elastic material.

1 7. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein strap extends fully across the center
2 portion.

1 8. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the compartment has an opening at each
2 end through which the article extends.

1 9. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the compartment is a pocket having a
2 closed end and an open end through which the article is inserted.

1 10. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the compartment is sized to closely receive
2 a brush handle.

1 11. (original) The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a pocket aligned with the
2 compartment for receiving a tip of the article inserted into the compartment.

1 12. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the means for fastening includes a hook-
2 and-loop material.

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1 13. (original) The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a layer of neoprene material
2 sewn between layers of duck cloth.

1 14. (original) The carrier of claim 1, wherein a front edge of center portion is shorter
2 than a back edge of the center portion.

1 15. (original) The carrier of claim 1, further comprising a second strap extending across
2 at least a portion of the top side of the carrier body and attached to the top side at a
3 plurality of locations such that a second compartment is defined for receiving and holding
4 an article between the second strap and the center portion.

1 16. (currently amended) A carrier of articles for wearing around a forearm, the carrier
2 comprising:

3 means for providing a carrier body having a top side, a center portion, and an end
4 portion on each side of the center portion, the center portion having front and back edges
5 and an external surface with a size that is greater in length from the front edge to the back
6 edge than various kinds of articles used in cosmetics, including scissors, eyeliner pencils,
7 and makeup brushes;

8 means for fastening the end portions to each other when the end portions are
9 wrapped around opposite sides of the forearm to secure the carrier to the forearm; and

10 strap means, attached to the top side of the carrier body, forming an open-ended
11 compartment that extends along the external surface in a longitudinal direction of the
12 forearm, the compartment for snugly receiving and urging an article used in cosmetics

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13 against the external surface to hold the article in place ~~holding an article between the strap~~
14 ~~means and the center portion, an open end of the compartment being located at a distance~~
15 from the front edge such that the article can project out of the compartment while
16 remaining encompassed by the external surface of the center portion.

1 17. (currently amended) A method for constructing a hands-free carrier for wearing around
2 a forearm, the method comprising:

3 providing a carrier body having a top side, an underside, a center portion, and an
4 end portion of each side of the center portion, the center portion having front and back
5 edges and an external surface with a size that is greater in length from the front edge to
6 the back edge than various kinds of articles used in cosmetics, including scissors, eyeliner
7 pencils, and makeup brushes;

8 attaching means for fastening ~~on~~ to the top side of an end portion of the carrier
9 body and ~~on~~ to the underside of a second end portion of the carrier body;

10 attaching a strap across the top side of the carrier body at a plurality of locations to
11 produce an open-ended compartment that extends along the external surface in a
12 longitudinal direction of the forearm, the compartment snugly for receiving and holding
13 an article used in cosmetics and urging the article against the external surface to hold the
14 article in place ~~between the strap and the center portion, an open end of the compartment~~
15 being located at a distance from the front edge such that the article can project out of the
16 compartment while remaining encompassed by the external surface of the center portion.

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- 1 18. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising attaching a planar cover
2 portion to a front edge of the center portion.
- 1 19. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the strap extends across the carrier body
2 approximately parallel to a front edge of the center portion.
- 1 20. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising sewing a layer of neoprene
2 between layers of duck cloth to produce the carrier body.